

The Halyard

We can not control the wind but we can adjust the sails



A weekly newsletter for Virginia's Library Media Specialists
April 9 2004

View from the Crow's Nest

If anyone ever asks Betsy Davis or me if we travel much we really can say that we traveled our beautiful state most of the month of March. With the exception of the Eastern Shore, I have been to every region in the state. I traveled in excess of 1000 miles and had the exciting opportunity to visit with library media specialists across this state that are making a difference each day in our schools.

Each regional that I attended I learned something new and different. In **Shenandoah**, I learned about the process of becoming a writer. In **York**, I learned about sites for organizing my online bookmarks. In **James**, I learned about the Encore theatre productions. **Potomac** taught me about the great resources at the Library of Congress. **Roanoke** showed me the wonderful resources provided by the Newspapers in Education program. And in **Clinch**, I learned about digital photography. I only wish I could have attended **Rappahannock** as I am sure that I missed something special there.



I especially want to thank the many vendors who attend each of the regionals. We could not do it without them and their willingness to help us do our jobs more effectively.

If you attended one of the conferences where I ran out of handouts and you did not provide me with your mailing information and you would like a copy of the handout, please email me, <mailto:cmakela@mail.vak12ed.edu>

Newspapers in Education



Newspapers in Education is a program in which teachers use the newspaper as a textbook in the classroom. The newspaper can be used to teach math, science, social studies, language arts, PE, art, statistics, economics -any subject. It can be used in any classroom at any grade level. Contact your local paper for additional details.

April is School



Library Media Month

<http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslissues/aasladvocacy/schoollibrary.htm>

Many school library media programs celebrate the month of April as School Library Media Month in conjunction with, and sharing the same theme as, National Library Week. Again this year National Library Week and School Library Media Month will be promoted

using "@ your library®," the brand for The Campaign for America's Libraries, ALA's multi-year public effort to speak loudly and clearly about the value of libraries and librarians in the 21st century. Both are wonderful opportunities for you to participate in the Campaign for America's Libraries and its [School Library Campaign](#) component. Ideas and examples of how libraries are successfully using the @ your library brand can be found at www.ala.org/@yourlibrary

Send pictures of your celebration for publication in a future edition of the Halyard.

Information Literacy

The greatest challenge facing us today is how to organize information into structured knowledge. We must rise above the obsession with quantity of information and the speed of transmission, and focus on the fact that the key issue for us is our ability to organize the information one it has been amassed, to assimilate it, to find meaning in it and to ensure its survival. And that cannot be done without reading and literacy.

(K. C. Lance (2003))

There is an excellent article by SouthEast Initiatives Regional Technology in Education Consortium entitled Information Literacy: One of the New 21st Century Learning Skills. Available at: <http://www.seirtec.org/publications/NewsWire/Vol6.1.pdf>



Call for information

Betsy Barton, the elementary social studies specialist, at the Virginia Department of Education is a true advocate for the incorporation of literature as a teaching/learning strategy. She is looking for books that correlate to the social studies SOL. During the recent regional meetings there were several sessions on book-talks and the Virginia Young Readers program. If you have a listing of literature that can be aligned with the elementary and or middle school social studies SOL, please send it to me and I will share it with her.

Curriculum Connections

A supplement to School Library Journal, entitled *Curriculum Connections* would be extremely valuable as you prepare for your spring book orders. It arrived in the April 2004 issue. It is 'a selective guide to current print, multimedia, and Web resources for elementary, middle, and high schools.' It is available at:

http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/index.asp?layout=supplementsToc&pubdate=4/1/04&pub_id=CURC